

From: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 3/20/2012 8:30:04 PM
To: "Sheela Tobben" <STobben@opisnet.com>
CC:
Subject: RE: Please email us your questions on Dimock

Sheela -- Sorry again for not getting back to you sooner. Here is a link to the EPA Action Memo from January 19 that provides some historical background information

<http://www.epaossc.org/sites/7555/files/Dimock%20Action%20Memo%2001-19-12.PDF>

Roy Seneca
EPA Region 3 Press Officer
Office of Public Affairs
seneca.roy@epa.gov
(215) 814-5567

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RE: Please email us your questions on Dimock

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Hi Roy,

I understand from EPA documents both at the state level and also on the federal level that investigations into water contamination at Dimock potentially caused by Cabot's drilling date back to 2009. Is this accurate?

And also there was some \$4 million in settlement which was negotiated by the EPA to

residents dating back to 2010, is this also accurate? (this I got from an online article)

Cheers,

Sheela

From: Roy Seneca [mailto:Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 6:36 PM

To: Sheela Tobben

Cc: Terri-A White

Subject: RE: Please email us your questions on Dimock

Sheela -- Sorry for the delay in getting back to you:

Question: Was there a medical issue that was brought to your attention from contaminated water?

Answer: EPA was not aware of any medical issue. However, EPA took action in January to ensure delivery of temporary water supplies to four homes where available data indicated that residents were consuming well water that contained levels of contaminations that posed a health concern. EPA's decided to conduct sampling because of the request of residents and because the sampling data we had was incomplete and of uncertain quality.

Question: Which specific drilling activity at Dimock of Cabot's was the EPA zoning in on? Location of the gas drilling/producing facility? Is this operation still proceeding or has it been suspended?

Answer: Our focus is first and foremost on the drinking water quality of residents.

Question: So far has the EPA fined Cabot at all ?

Answer: EPA has not taken any enforcement action against Cabot related to activities near Dimock.

When does your first water sampling date back to?

Answer: Our sampling effort began the week of January 23rd and continued for three and half weeks through Feb. 15th

Since then how many tests have you conducted?

Answer: Overall, we have sampled wells for 61 homes to date.

Question: I do recall that the January 19 statement indicated that there was a link, but now it appears that your most recent tests show that the water supply is fine, that it does not have any contamination.

Answer: EPA has not done any detailed review to determine the cause. Our focus is first and foremost on the drinking water quality of residents. EPA is not drawing any conclusions at this time.

Roy Seneca

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-----Sheela Tobben <STobben@opisnet.com> wrote: -----

To: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

From: Sheela Tobben <STobben@opisnet.com>

Date: 03/19/2012 03:11PM

Cc: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: RE: Please email us your questions on Dimock

Hi Roy,

No problem at all.

Essentially, I am trying to get some background on when these tests began and why. I only started covering this around January. So I am missing some pieces, which are critical to me writing up the story.

Was there a medical issue that was brought to your attention from contaminated water?

Which specific drilling activity at Dimock of Cabot's was the EPA zoning in on?

Location of the gas drilling/producing facility? Is this operation still proceeding or has it been suspended?

So far has the EPA fined Cabot at all ?

When does your first water sampling date back to?

Since then how many tests have you conducted?

I do recall that the January 19 statement indicated that there was a link, but now it appears that your most recent tests show that the water supply is fine, that it does not have any contamination.

Your prompt response would be greatly appreciated.

Best regards,

Sheela Tobben

Reporter

Oil Price Information Services (OPIS)

Natural Gas Liquids (NGLs)

Tel: 1 718 869 1126

Yahoo ID: Sheela_OPIS

Email: stobben@opisnet.com

From: Roy Seneca [<mailto:Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 2:51 PM

To: Sheela Tobben

Cc: Terri-A White

Subject: Please email us your questions on Dimock

Sheela -- I got your voice message. We are handling all questions regarding Dimock via email. Please email your questions to me and Terri White and we will try to get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks

Roy Seneca

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